

SUBJECT

Christian Patriots Defense League

FILE NUMBER

100-487109

49 pr

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P
IP

12/24/80

CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

#F002IRR OM SIDE HQ H0002 #HIVCR 291628Z DEC 80

FM DIRECTOR, FBI

TO FBI, OMAHA {100-9680} ROUTINE
FBI, SPRINGFIELD ROUTINE

BT

CONFIDENTIAL

CHRISTIAN PATRIOTIC DEFENSE LEAGUE {CPDL}; DOMESTIC SECURITY.

OO: OMAHA

RE OMAHA LET DATED DECEMBER 8, 1980. {U}

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INITIATED AUGUST 29, 1980; EX-
TENDED THROUGH MARCH 1, 1981. {X} (u)AUTHORITY GRANTED TO EXTEND PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AS
INDICATED ABOVE. ENSURE RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ACTION ARE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO
EXPIRATION DATE. {X} (u)SPRINGFIELD FURNISH OMAHA WITH SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CON-
CERNING CAPTIONED GROUP FROM YOUR FILES. {X} (u)

SEE 8024, REASON 2, DRD DECEMBER 24, 2000. +

DO NOT TYPE OR SERVE IN CIVIL THIS LINE

TSB/90 {2}	DATE 12/24/80	ROOM 4084/6	TELE 4651
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(b)(7)(C)

DECLASSIFIED 5/09/81

SP-4 Jim falcon

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTIONDEC 19 1982 PM
FBI - OMAHA

17 DEC 30 1980

C. Smith MA

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69 FEB 18 1981

NOT FILE WITHOUT COMMUNICATIONS STAMP

FBI -

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COMMUNICATION SHEET

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET61

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) The Army Department of, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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For your information: _____



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TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
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PRECEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION

TOP SECRET
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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP(S) OF *class*DATE *4-2-81*Date *3/11/81*~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (100-11623) (RUC)
 SUBJECT: ~~CHANGED~~
 CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)
 DOMESTIC SECURITY
 OO: Omaha

et
 Title marked "changed" to reflect correct spelling
 of organization known as Christian-Patriots Defense League.
 Title previously carried as Christian Patriotic Defense League.

Information contained in this communication is
 classified "confidential" unless otherwise shown. (U)

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INITIATED BY OMAHA ON
 8/29/80, EXTENDED THROUGH 3/1/81.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INITIATED BY CHARLOTTE
 ON 1/21/81, TO EXPIRE 4/21/81.

Re Detroit airtel to Omaha dated 8/25/80, and
 Bureau teletype to Omaha dated 12/28/80, captioned "Christian
 Patriotic Defense League, OO: Omaha" and Charlotte airtel
 to Springfield dated 2/9/81, captioned "Christian Patriots,
 OO: Omaha".

Enclosed for Charlotte and Omaha are two copies each
 of:

V-56 DE-24 100-487109-2
 1) A 6/3/77 newspaper article;

2) An 11/13/79 newspaper article;

2 MAR 16 1981

2 - Bureau
 2 - Charlotte (100-12245) (enc. 12)
 2 - Omaha (100-9680) (enc. 12)
 [REDACTED] Springfield (100-11623) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified and intended by 6974

Reasons for extension: FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 (2&3)

Date of review for declassification - 3/11/01

Approved: *DW*

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

★ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1980-305-750/5402

CoS/BS/ML

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3) A 7/1/80 newspaper article;
4) An undated open letter;
5) A "Freedom Festival" leaflet;
6) A Certificate of Incorporation in Illinois
for the CPDL.

(b)(7)(c), (d)



Referenced Charlotte airtel indicated that individuals wearing camouflage uniforms claiming to be members of an advanced party of the Christian Patriots Organization were residing in the vicinity of the Uwharrie National Forest, Troy, North Carolina. Special forces units of the United States Army at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, have training exercises in the Uwharrie National Forest and have encountered individuals claiming to be Christian Patriots who are allegedly in the possession of automatic weapons. One of these individuals indicated he was from the Chicago, Illinois area. During the encounters with members of the Christian

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SI 100-11623

Patriots, members have requested to participate and cooperate in training with the special forces soldiers.

(b)(7)(C) [REDACTED] John Robert Harrell, also known as Johnny Bob Harrell, was the organizer of the Christian-Patriots Defense League as well as the Christian Conservative Churches of America, which is headquartered in Louisville, Illinois.

(b)(7)(C), (D) [REDACTED] During the course of liaison with local and state authorities in Louisville, Illinois area, the following information was developed:

During 6/16-17/79, approximately three hundred to four hundred persons attended a "Freedom Festival" at Louisville, Illinois, on the grounds of the Christian Conservative Churches of America, which is described as a replica of George Washington's Mt. Vernon estate. During this session, lectures were presented concerning racial problems, survival techniques on how to survive during periods of emergencies, instruction in the use of firearms, and S.W.A.T. procedure. Expressions of anti-Jewish and anti-black sentiments were made throughout the session. Local authorities at Louisville, Illinois, have received reports of stockpiling of firearms and ammunition on the grounds of the Christian Conservative Churches of America at Louisville, which information has never been substantiated.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SI 100-11623

(b)(7)(C)



- 4 -

INITIALS ~~X~~ 100

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JH

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

1 - [REDACTED]
1 - Liaison Unit

(b)(2)(c)

March 13, 1981

FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI
APPROACH BY PARAMILITARY PERSONNEL
JANUARY 6, 1981

Reference is made to your letter dated March 2, 1981, regarding the captioned matter.

A review of the material enclosed in the referenced letter reveals no basis for the investigation of the Christian Patriots Defense League under the United States Attorney General Guidelines for the conduct of domestic security investigations.

(5)

Delivered to Department of the Army via liaison on 3/17/81
by [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/21/81 BY SP-4 Jmf/jel
CONF. # 210678

DE-114

V57

100-487109-2X
100-0-46519

20 MAR 27 1981

6

cc

1981

125

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
 Facsimile
 Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
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Date 4/2/81

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-12245) (P)

CONFIDENTIAL

① CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)
 DOMESTIC SECURITY
 OO: CHARLOTTE

cc 2

Preliminary investigation initiated in Charlotte Division 1/21/81, to expire 4/21/81. Additionally, a preliminary investigation was initiated by Omaha 8/29/80, extended by FBIHQ through 3/1/81. Charlotte has no information indicating whether Omaha investigation was extended further. (X) (u)

Reference Charlotte airtel to Detroit 2/27/81 (IO);
 Detroit airtel to Charlotte 3/13/81 (IO);
 Bureau airtel to Charlotte 2/3/81, no copy to
 Detroit or Omaha. (U)

(b) (7) (C)

REDACTED

② - Bureau
 2 - Detroit (100-43096)
 1 - Omaha (100-9680) (Info.)
 3 - Charlotte

100- 487109 3

• APR 6 1981

4002

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified and Extended by 2204
 Reason for Extension FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2(2)
 Date of Review for Declassification 4/2/01

DECLASSIFIED
ON 4/2/01

Approved: 1/14/81 101 Transmitted _____ Per _____

59 MAY 13 1981

WBS

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
 Facsimile

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET
 SECRET
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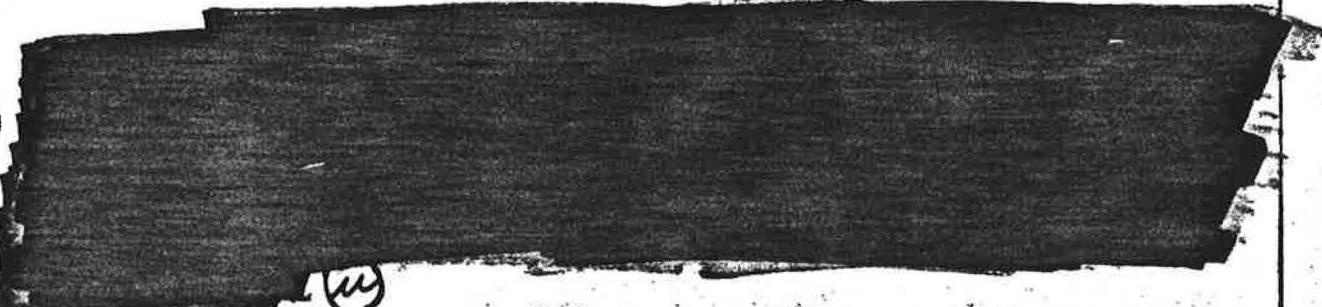
Date _____

CE 100-12245

As Charlotte communications have indicated captioned group is possibly in possession of automatic weapons and have encountered U. S. Army personnel in Uwharrie National Forest. Possession of these weapons could have been obtained by commission of a Theft of Government Property or Crime on a Government Reservation. Charlotte is attempting to determine such violations with the assistance of the military. Additionally, a political terrorist type organization with possession of illegal weapons (under U. S. Code Title 2 or including stolen military weapons) can be investigated by the FBI with or without the assistance of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms. In this instance the Charlotte office has briefed ATF in North Carolina on the allegations and that organization also has been of assistance in attempting to resolve the allegations. Military concern at Fort Bragg, N. C. pertains to captioned group's contact with Special Forces Unit and includes the concern that the group intends to recruit active duty personnel in an effort to obtain additional weapons and ammunition for their arsenal. (X)(u)

(b)(7)(c)

(u)



According to the Attorney General's Guidelines for Domestic Security Investigations, Section IA, investigations can be conducted of an organization before a specific act of violence is committed, providing the purpose of the organization fits the criteria enumerated in IA(1) through IA(4). Additionally a preliminary investigation is to be confined to efforts to determine whether there is a factual basis for opening a full investigation. As stated in the Guidelines, IIC, "Information gathered by the FBI during preliminary investigations shall be

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 UNCLAS

Date _____

CE 100-12245

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"pertinent to verifying or refuting the allegations of information concerning activities described in Paragraph IA." Charlotte office considers that it has met all the requirements of the Attorney General's Guidelines and, therefore, is conducting a valid preliminary investigation. (U)

There is little doubt that captioned organization is a para-military group functioning in North Carolina and probably other states. Although investigations of para-military groups without further allegations of possible illegal activity or potential violations of Federal law would not be permitted under the Guidelines, the allegations against captioned group do involve potential violations of Federal law. If no factual basis is developed for continuing this preliminary investigation or the facts developed are insufficient to warrant a request for a full investigation under the Guidelines this case will be closed. (X) (u)

REQUEST OF BUREAU:

In view of outstanding leads in the vicinity of Fort Bragg and the Uwharrie National Forest plus outstanding leads in other divisions, it is requested that a 90 day extension be granted in this case. (X) (u)

LEAD:DETROIT DIVISIONAT FLINT, MICHIGAN

(b) (7) (c)

Is requested to cover lead as set forth in Charlotte airtel of 2/27/81. Note Charlotte request for information [REDACTED] is merely a summary request of investigative steps specifically permitted by Section IIE of the Guidelines, which pertain to preliminary investigations. (X) (u)

3*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Approved: _____

Transmitted _____
(Number)

(Time)

Per _____

Memorandum



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To : DIRECTOR, FBI

Date 4/14/81

WCP/M
Re : SAC, OMAHA (100-9680) (C)

Subject : CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE
DOMESTIC SECURITY
OO:OMAHA

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SHIP(S) OF Class
DATE 6-2-81 Wk

Preliminary investigation instituted by Omaha
on 8/29/80, and extended through 3/1/81. No investigation
conducted subsequent to 3/1/81. (X) (u)

Re Springfield airtel to Bureau, et al, 3/1⁹¹²/81;
Charlotte airtel to Bureau, 4/2/81. (U)

Enclosed for the Bureau is the original and four
copies of an LHM relating to the captioned matter within
the Omaha Division. Enclosed for Charlotte, Detroit and
Springfield is one copy each of same LHM for purposes of
information only. (U)

ADMINISTRATIVE:

DECLASSIFIED
ON 5/29/81

SP-4 Jan/Jan

(b) (7) (c) [REDACTED]
2-Bureau (Enc.-5) (INFO)
1-Charlotte (100-12245) (Enc.-1) (INFO)
1-Detroit (100-43096) (Enc.-1) (INFO)
1-Springfield (100-11623) (Enc.-1) (INFO)
1-Omaha

100-489104-4
23 APR 21 1981

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(6)

Rec-enc Rm 4684

64 MAY 5 1981

CLASSIFIED AND ENTERED 100-489104-4
100-489104-4
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION

23 APR 14/01

Room 4672

Reb
Reb
Declass

CONFIDENTIAL

OM 100-9680

IDENTIFICATION OF U. S. PERSONS:

LHM, dated 4/14/81, captioned "CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS
DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)." (X) (u)

(b) (7) (D)

USPERS #1

(u)

USPERS #2

(X) (u)

(b) (7) (C)

USPERS #3

(X) (u)

(b) (7) (C), (D)

USPERS #4

(X) (u)

)

USPERS #5

(u) (u)

(b) (7) (C)



U.S. Department of Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Omaha, Nebraska

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

April 14, 1981

CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ATTACHED BY DRAFTING
SLIP(S) OF *class*
DATE *6-22-81*

This communication is classified Confidential
in its entirety.

This investigation was predicated upon receipt of
information from USPERS #ONE (1), an unknown individual

(b)7(D)



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SP-4 Jonathan
DECLASSIFIED BY *SP-4 Jonathan*
ON *5/29/81*

CLASSIFIED AND DATED	23
REASON FOR EXTEN	4/14/81
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION	4/14/81

This document contains neither recommendations nor
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the
FBI and loaned to your agency; it and its contents
are not to be disseminated outside your agency.

~~ENCLOSURES~~

100-487109-4

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)~~

(2)(c)(D) [REDACTED]

b7c

On October 16, 1980, inquiry with the Motor Vehicle Department, State of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, revealed a current operator's license for the State of Nebraska issued to USPERS #2. [REDACTED]

Inquiry with the Identification Division of the FBI, Washington, D.C., regarding any identification record for USPERS #2 was negative.

The Springfield, Illinois, Division of the FBI has advised that the CPDL is a dually incorporated non-profit organization whose articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State for the State of Illinois on April 11, 1978, wherein the purposes of the corporation were stated as being for the preservation of Christian principles and the American heritage of constitutional freedoms and liberty. [REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)

Investigation regarding the CPDL and USPERS #2 in the vicinity of Omaha, Nebraska, has failed to reveal any other members of the CPDL or any propensity for acts of violence on the part of USPERS #2.

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
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 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET
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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND OTHER OFFICES

INVOLVED IN PROCESSING

SLIP DATE

DATE

declas
6/16/83 op

CONFIDENTIAL Date 6/17/81

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: SAC, DETROIT (100-43096)(CI-2)(RUC)

CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS
 DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)
 DOMESTIC SECURITY
 (OO: CHARLOTTE)

DECLASSIFIED BY 001-QSK-50
 ON 8/25/83
 231431
 001 4/21/81

Re Charlotte airtels to the Bureau, 5/29/81 and 4/2/81, and Detroit airtel to the Bureau, 3/13/81. (U)

Preliminary inquiry was initiated by the Charlotte Division on 1/21/81; expiration date 4/21/81. (X)

The referenced 4/2/81 Charlotte airtel requested a development of background information on [REDACTED] this referenced communication also requested a 90 day extension be granted in this case for additional investigation. (X)

The only investigation conducted by the Detroit Division, which was conducted prior to 4/21/81, involved review of the Flint, Michigan, city directory, 1980, which revealed [REDACTED]

No other investigation was conducted by the Detroit Division pending an approval on the 90 day extension request by the Charlotte Division. (X)

The 5/29/81 Charlotte referenced airtel reveals that the Bureau has not granted a 90 day extension in captioned matter and the Charlotte Division placed their matter in a closed status. Since no 90 day extension has been granted, the Detroit Division is placing this matter in an RUC status. (X)

2 - Bureau (RM)
 1 - Charlotte (100-12245)(RM)
 1 - Detroit

(4)

CONFIDENTIAL

Level of Classification

Classified and Excluded

Reason for Extension (See 1-2-4-2)

Date of Review for Declassification 6/17/2001

Approved:

251

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

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PRECEDENCE:

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

/ FIELD OFFICES

/ ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP (\$) OF

DATE

5/26/83

Date 5/29/81

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-12245) (C)
 CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)
 DOMESTIC SECURITY
 OO: CHARLOTTE

CONFIDENTIAL

Re Charlotte airtel to Bureau 4/2/81. (U)

Referenced airtel reviewed investigative purposes for this case and requested a 90 day extension from the Bureau. The Bureau has not granted this 90 day extension, and no investigation has been conducted by the Charlotte Division since 4/17/81. No information was developed during the period of active investigation which indicated any specific violation of Federal law. This matter is being considered closed in the Charlotte office, as no authority exists for continued investigation.

(b) (7)(c) By airtel dated 4/23/81 the Bureau instructed that a preliminary investigation be conducted of [REDACTED] Miami was designated office of origin, and the investigative results of Charlotte's inquiry into [REDACTED] will be furnished to the Miami Division prior to the expiration date of the preliminary investigation.

2 - Bureau
 1 - Detroit (100-43096) (Info.)
 1 - Miami (Info.)
 2 - Charlotte (1 - 100-12245)
 (1 - 100-12248)

100 - 487109-6

7 JUN 1 1981

(b) BY GS/C
 231431 195
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CONFIDENTIAL

Classified and intended by 2204
 Reason for Extension FCIM, II, 1-2-412 (2)
 Date of Review/Declassification 5/29/01

Approved: P/HB

Transmitted _____

Per _____

(Number) (Time)

VZCZCWF0315

RR HQ IP KC LR LA OC PG SI
DE WF #0019 2512047

ZNY CCCCC

R 082039Z SEP 81

FM WASHINGTON FIELD

TO DIRECTOR FBI ROUTINE

FBI INDIANAPOLIS ROUTINE

FBI KANSAS CITY ROUTINE

FBI LITTLE ROCK ROUTINE

FBI LOS ANGELES ROUTINE (ALL OFFICES VIA FBIHQ)

FBI OKLAHOMA CITY ROUTINE

FBI PITTSBURGH ROUTINE

FBI SPRINGFIELD ROUTINE

BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL SECTION ONE OF TWO SECTIONS~~

~~CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE; CITIZENS EMERGENCY~~

~~DEFENSE SYSTEM; DOMESTIC SECURITY; (00:SPRINGFIELD);~~

~~(WFO FILE 100-59886) (P)~~

~~CHRISTIAN CONSERVATIVE CHURCHES OF AMERICA; DOMESTIC~~

~~SECURITY; (00:SPRINGFIELD); (WFO FILE 100-59887) (P)~~

THE ENTIRE CONTENTS OF THIS COMMUNICATION ARE CLASSIFIED

"CONFIDENTIAL" UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

DECLASSIFIED BY ~~PPC~~ GSF/JC
ON 8/25/83
231431

DE-50 100-487107-1
Vt 40

17 SEP 15 1981

TELETYPE TO: acf at one
59 OCT 6 1981

LMG
SEP 18 1981

Exec AD-Act	_____
Exec AD-Inv	_____
Exec AD-LES	_____
Ass't Dir:	_____
Adm. Serv.	_____
Com. Inv.	_____
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Inspection	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
U.S. of Cong.	_____
& Public Affs.	_____

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(Q7)(C)

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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For your information: _____



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100-487109-7 pages 2-6

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VZCZCWF0316

RR HQ IP KC LR LA OC PG SI

DE WF #0023 2512102

ZNY CCCCC

R 082039Z SEP 81

FM WASHINGTON FIELD
TO DIRECTOR FBI ROUTINE
FBI INDIANAPOLIS ROUTINE
FBI KANSAS CITY ROUTINE
FBI LITTLE ROCK ROUTINE
FBI LOS ANGELES ROUTINE
FBI OKLAHOMA CITY ROUTINE
FBI PITTSBURGH ROUTINE
FBI SPRINGFIELD ROUTINE

BT

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION TWO OF TWO SECTIONS

CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE; CITIZENS EMERGENCY
DEFENSE SYSTEM; DOMESTIC SECURITY; (00:SPRINGFIELD);
(WFO FILE 100-59886) (P);

CHRISTIAN CONSERVATIVE CHURCHES OF AMERICA; DOMESTIC
SECURITY; (00:SPRINGFIELD); (WFO FILE 100-59887) (P)

(b) (7) (c) (D)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-487107-7 page 2 of part 2

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PAGE THREE DE WF 0023 C O N F I D E N T I A L

WASHINGTON FIELD INDICES CONTAIN NO PERTINENT INFORMATION REGARDING CAPTIONED GROUPS AND THE ADDITIONAL ABOVE MENTIONED GROUPS, AS WELL AS THE ABOVE MENTIONED NAMES, INCLUDING [REDACTED]

SINCE WASHINGTON FIELD IS UNAWARE OF ANY INVESTIGATION(S) REGARDING THIS MATTER, THE FOLLOWING LEADS ARE SET FORTH:

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU:

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO SEARCH INDICES REGARDING THE ABOVE MENTIONED GROUPS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
AND FURNISH POSITIVE INFORMATION TO APPROPRIATE OFFICES.

LEADS. SPRINGFIELD IS REQUESTED TO CONSIDER CONDUCTING A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION REGARDING CAPTIONED GROUPS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
ALSO, ALL APPROPRIATE OFFICES

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C), (d)

PAGE FOUR DE WF 0023 C O N F I D E N T I A L

ARE REQUESTED TO SEARCH INDICES REGARDING THESE NAMES AND GROUPS,
AND TO CONTACT LOCAL BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND FIREARMS
(BATF) OFFICE REGARDING THE POSSIBLE ILLEGAL TRANSACTIONS OF
WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS REGARDING THESE GROUPS.

WASHINGTON FIELD. AT WASHINGTON, D.C. WILL MAINTAIN
CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] FOR ANY FURTHER
INFORMATION REGARDING THIS MATTER, AND WILL ADVISE THE
BUREAU AND APPROPRIATE OFFICES.

(b)(7)(c), (d)

~~CASE BY 849. REASONS 2 AND 3. DRD SEPTEMBER 8, 2001.~~

BT

#0023

NNNN

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 9/25/81

(b)(7)(c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (100-43100) (CI-2) (RUC)

CHRISTIAN PATRIOT DEFENSE
LEAGUE/SCEPTE, INC.
BENTON, TENNESSEE
DOMESTIC SECURITY INVESTIGATION

① *Christian Patriotic Defense
 League*

Re Detroit airtel and LHM to Bureau, 9/8/81. (U)

Enclosed for Indianapolis, Omaha, and Springfield are one copy each of referenced airtel and LHM. Bureau, Atlanta, and Knoxville are receiving one copy of Detroit letter to Omaha, 8/25/80, captioned "CHRISTIAN PATRIOTIC DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL); DS - TERRORISM." (X)

Recipients are receiving these enclosures in order to supplement previous correspondence in this regard. (U)

ENCLOSURE

② - Bureau (Enc.-1) (RM)
 2 - Atlanta (Enc.-1) (RM)
 2 - Indianapolis (Enc.-2) (RM)
 2 - Knoxville (Enc.-1) (RM)
 2 - Omaha (Enc.-2) (RM)
 2 - Springfield (Enc.-2) (RM)
 1 - Detroit

DECLASSIFIED BY ① P1057/IC
 ON 8/25/83 23143T

V-12

DE-12

157109-8

Level of Classification CONFIDENTIAL
 Classified and Declassified by 940
 Reason for Extension QX3
 Date of Review for Declassification 125/2001

OCT 9 1981

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 FIELD OFFICES
 ADVISOR P. D. UNIT
 SLIP (S) OF DeLoach
 DATE 8/24/1981

Approved: NOV 18 1981Transmitted _____
 (Number) (Time)

X AIRTEL

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF One
DATE 10/10/68 B

8/25/80

TO: SAC, OMAHA (100-O)
FROM: SAC, DETROIT (100-O) (SQ CI-1)
CHRISTIAN PATRIOTIC DEFENSE LEAGUE
(CPDL)
DS - TERRORISM

DECLASSIFIED BY D.O. G.S.K. 3
ON 8/28/83 BY 23143 (b)(7)(C)(D)

For information of Omaha and Springfield, an individual
who identified himself as

no investigation. (U)

BEFORE SUGGESTING

2 - Omaha (RM)
2 - Springfield (RM)
1 - Detroit

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED

100-0-46335-

Level of Classification

All information contained herein is being submitted
to Omaha and Springfield for any appropriate investigation. (U)

For any assistance to Indianapolis, which info may & may not
be committed to the shooting of [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TRANSMIT VIA:
 Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:
 Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

JULY 14 1981
 FBI

CLASSIFICATION:
 TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS EFTO
 UNCLAS

Date 10/8/81

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 AND FIELD OFFICES
 DETERMINED BY ROUTING
 SECTION(S) OF Declass
8/16/83

2
 RW

TO
 DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM W/10
 SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (100-28310) (RUC)
 CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS
 DEFENSE LEAGUE
 CITIZENS EMERGENCY
 DEFENSE SYSTEM
 DOMESTIC SECURITY
 OO: SPRINGFIELD

classified All paragraphs herein including the caption are
 "Confidential" unless otherwise noted. U
 Bureau, 9/8/81. Re IP airtel to Bureau, 9/18/81, and WFO teletype to

Bureau of
 Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms at Fort Wayne, Indiana, advised
 that his agency has no record nor does he have any knowledge of
 an ATF investigation into any captioned groups or any individual
 mentioned in referenced organizations that he would classify as being
 "extreme" operate in the area, he has never heard any rumors
 regarding any of them maintaining a training base in or around
 Fort Wayne. [REDACTED] that should he receive any such
 information in the future he would contact the FBI.

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 2979
 REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 (2) (3)
 DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 10/8/81
 100-481109-9

② - Bureau
 2 - Washington Field Office
 (1 - 100-59886)
 (1 - 100-59887)
 1 - Indianapolis

(5)

ved:
 OCT 26 1981

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
 Transmitted
 On

12 OCT 13 1981

PAGE TWO DE WF 3313 C O N F I D E N T I A L ~~X~~

REFERENCE WASHINGTON FIELD TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR DATED
SEPTEMBER 3, 1931.

THE BUREAU AND ALL RECEIVING OFFICES ARE TO BE ADVISED
THAT THE WASHINGTON FIELD FILE NUMBERS ON REFERENCED TELETYPE
WERE IN ERROR. THE NEW WASHINGTON FIELD FILE NUMBERS ARE
INDICATED IN CAPTIONED TITLES. THE BUREAU AND ALL RECEIVING
OFFICES ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE NOTE OF THE NEW WASHINGTON FIELD
FILE NUMBERS IN FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS.

~~ONE BY 554. FOIN, 11 (2,3). OCTOBER 3, 2021.~~

BT

#2313

NNNN

CONFIDENTIAL

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 3/18/81

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (100-28310) (P)
 CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE;
 CITIZENS EMERGENCY DEFENSE SYSTEM
 DOMESTIC SECURITY
 OO: Springfield

All paragraphs herein, including the caption, are classified "Confidential" unless otherwise noted.

Re Washington Field Office teletype to the Bureau and others, 9/8/81.

Enclosed for Omaha is one copy of referenced teletype.

On 9/14/81. SA [REDACTED] BATF, Indianapolis, Indiana, advised there is no record of any local BATF investigation of captioned groups or any individual mentioned in referenced teletype.

2 - Bureau
 2 - Omaha (Enc. 1)
 4 - Springfield
 2 - Washington Field Office
 (1 - 100-59886)
 (1 - 100-59887)
 3 - Indianapolis

100-487109-1
 CLASSIFIED AND EXPIRED BY 2979
 REASON FOR EXTENSION: 4. II. 1-2.4.2 293
 DATE OF REVIEW FOR CLASSIFICATION 9/18/2001

(13)

CONFIDENTIAL

15 SEP 24 1981

Approved: [REDACTED]

59 OCT 29 1981

Transmitted (Number) (Time)

Rm.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IP 100-28310

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(b)(7)(c)

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU:

The Bureau is requested to search Indices regarding [REDACTED] Christian Patriotic Defense League.

L E A D S

OMAHA

At Omaha, Nebraska

1. Search Indices regarding captioned groups [REDACTED] and Christian Patriotic Defense League.
2. Contact BATF for details regarding that agency's investigation of [REDACTED]

INDIANAPOLIS

At Fort Wayne, Indiana

Contact BATF for any information regarding captioned matter, (b)(7)(D)

(Furnish lead Agent with a copy of referenced teletype.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

060004 26701362

RR HQ SI WF

DE OC

R 230136Z SEP 81

FM OKLAHOMA CITY (157-2851) (C)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE
SPRINGFIELD ROUTINE

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE (100-59886) (100-59887) ROUTINE

BT

CONFIDENTIAL

CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE, CITIZENS EMERGENCY DEFENSE

SYSTEM; DOMESTIC SECURITY; OO: SPRINGFIELD; WFO FILE 100-59886

CHRISTIAN CONSERVATIVE CHURCHES OF AMERICA; DOMESTIC SECURITY

00: SPRINGFIELD; WFO FILE 100-59887.

THE ENTIRE CONTENTS OF THIS COMMUNICATION ARE CLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

RE WFO ROUTINE TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU, SEPTEMBER 8, 1931.

SEARCH OF OKLAHOMA CITY INDICES ON

NEGATIVE.

SEARCH OF INDICES ON CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE,
CITIZENS VOLUNTEER DEFENSE LEAGUE, CITIZENS EMERGENCY DEFENSE LEAGUE. DETERMINED

DECLASSIFIED BY RPL/BSR/JS
ON 8/25/83

231431

59 NOV. 1 1981

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN BC - 487761.

PAGE TWO, OC 157-2851, CONFIDENTIAL

(b)(7)(c), (d)



ON SEPTEMBER 18, 1981, [REDACTED] AGENT, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA, ADVISED CAPTIONED GROUPS NOT FAMILIAR TO HER. SHE STATED SHE WOULD CANVAS AGENTS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA AND ADVISE THE FBI IF CAPTIONED GROUPS KNOWN TO ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

ON SEPTEMBER 22, 1981, AGENT [REDACTED] ADVISED SHE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE ANYONE CONNECTED WITH ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WHO WAS ACQUAINTED WITH CAPTIONED ORGANIZATIONS.

PAGE THREE, OC 157-2851, CONFIDENTIAL

~~S AND E 160, RFE 2, DRD SEPTEMBER 23, 2001.~~

BT

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.



Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C), (D) with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):



For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-48709-13 page 1

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

PH 100-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~JAN 22 1983~~

(b)(7)(c)(D)

[REDACTED] On August 28, 1981, telephonic contact with [REDACTED] of the Springfield Division revealed that the Springfield Division does not have an investigation pending on the CPDL, but did at one time. No basis was found for continuing the investigation of the CPDL.

(b)(7)(c)

Philadelphia indices negative re CPDL.

(U)

(b)(7)(c)(D)

[REDACTED]

(U)

The above for information. Since no active investigation presently being conducted by office of origin, no action being taken by Philadelphia.

(X)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-48709-13

Page 2

Memorandum



To : DIRECTOR, FBI

Date

10/29/81

From : SAC OMAHA (100-9680) (RUC)

Subject : CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL);
CITIZENS EMERGENCY DEFENSE SYSTEM;
DOMESTIC SECURITY
OO: SPRINGFIELD

Re Indianapolis airtel to the Bureau, et al, dated
9/18/81; Springfield airtel to the Bureau, et al, dated 10/5/81

Omaha indices negative re Citizens Emergency Defense
System, [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C), (D)

DE-51

On 10/20/81, inquiry with the Alcohol, Tobacco, and
Firearms Division of the Treasury Department, 106 South 15th
Street, Omaha, Nebraska, revealed that that agency in the past
has investigated [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

V.E.J

DE-51

100-481109-14

② - Bureau
2 - Springfield (100-11623)
1 - Indianapolis (100-28310) (Info)
1 - Omaha [REDACTED]

12 NOV 6 1981

(6)
DEC 9 1981

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/25/83 BY QP/BSK/SC
231431

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
 Facsimile
 AIRTEL

PRÉCEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 10/5/81

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD (100-11623) (C)

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN-PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE (CPDL)
CITIZENS EMERGENCY DEFENSE SYSTEM
DOMESTIC SECURITY
OO: SpringfieldEnclosed for each office is a four page article from
"The Trooper" magazine regarding the CPDL.ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/25/83 BY APL-GSK-SC 83143

[REDACTED] John Robert Harrell, aka Johnny Bob Harrell, was the organizer of the Christian-Patriots Defense League (CPDL) as well as the Citizens Emergency Defense System and the Christian Conservative Churches of America, all of which are headquartered in Louisville, Illinois. The CPDL espouses an ultra-conservative philosophy and the belief that the U. S. is headed towards moral and economic collapse and that a communist attack is probable and eminent. The CPDL is organizing and training like-minded individuals in survival techniques and military tactics to be able to take care of themselves when that time comes. It is noted that during the summer months in years past, several hundred people attend a "Freedom Festival" at Louisville, Illinois, on the grounds of the Christian Conservative Churches of America which is described as a replica of George Washington's Mt. Vernon Estate. During this festival, lectures are

1- ENCLOSURE

1 - Bureau	1 - Chicago	1 - Jackson	1 - New Haven
1 - Albany	1 - Cincinnati	1 - Jacksonville	1 - New Orleans
1 - Albuquerque	1 - Cleveland	1 - Kansas City	1 - New York City
1 - Alexandria	1 - Columbia	1 - Knoxville	1 - Norfolk
1 - Anchorage	1 - Dallas	1 - Las Vegas	1 - Oklahoma City
1 - Atlanta	1 - Denver	1 - Little Rock	(157-2851)
1 - Baltimore	1 - Detroit	1 - Los Angeles	1 - Omaha
1 - Boston	1 - El Paso	1 - Louisville	1 - Philadelphia
1 - Buffalo	1 - Honolulu	1 - Memphis	1 - Phoenix
1 - Butte	1 - Houston	1 - Miami	1 - Pittsburgh
1 - Charlotte	1 - Indianapolis	1 - Milwaukee	1 - Portland
(100-28310)			
1 - Springfield (100-11623)	1 - Mobile	1 - Minneapolis	1 - Richmond
1981			

Approved: DP

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

(Number)

(Time)

SAC

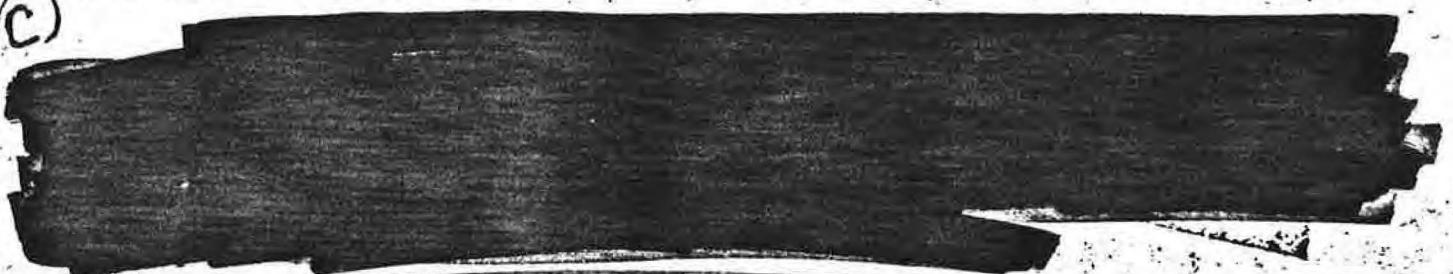
FBI

SI 100-11623

1 - St. Louis
1 - Salt Lake City
1 - San Antonio
1 - San Diego
1 - San Francisco
1 - San Juan
1 - Savannah
1 - Seattle
1 - Tampa
2 - WFO (1 - 100-59886)
(1 - 100-59887)

presented concerning racial problems, survival techniques on how to survive during periods of emergencies, instructions in the use of firearms and SWAT procedures. Expressions of anti-Jewish and anti-black sentiments are made throughout the festival. Local authorities at Louisville, Illinois, have received reports of stockpiling of firearms and ammunition on the grounds of the Christian Conservative Churches of America at Louisville which information has never been substantiated.

(b7c)



The Springfield Division does not have a pending investigation concerning [REDACTED] the CPDL, the Citizens Emergency Defense System, or the Christian Conservative Churches of America; [REDACTED]



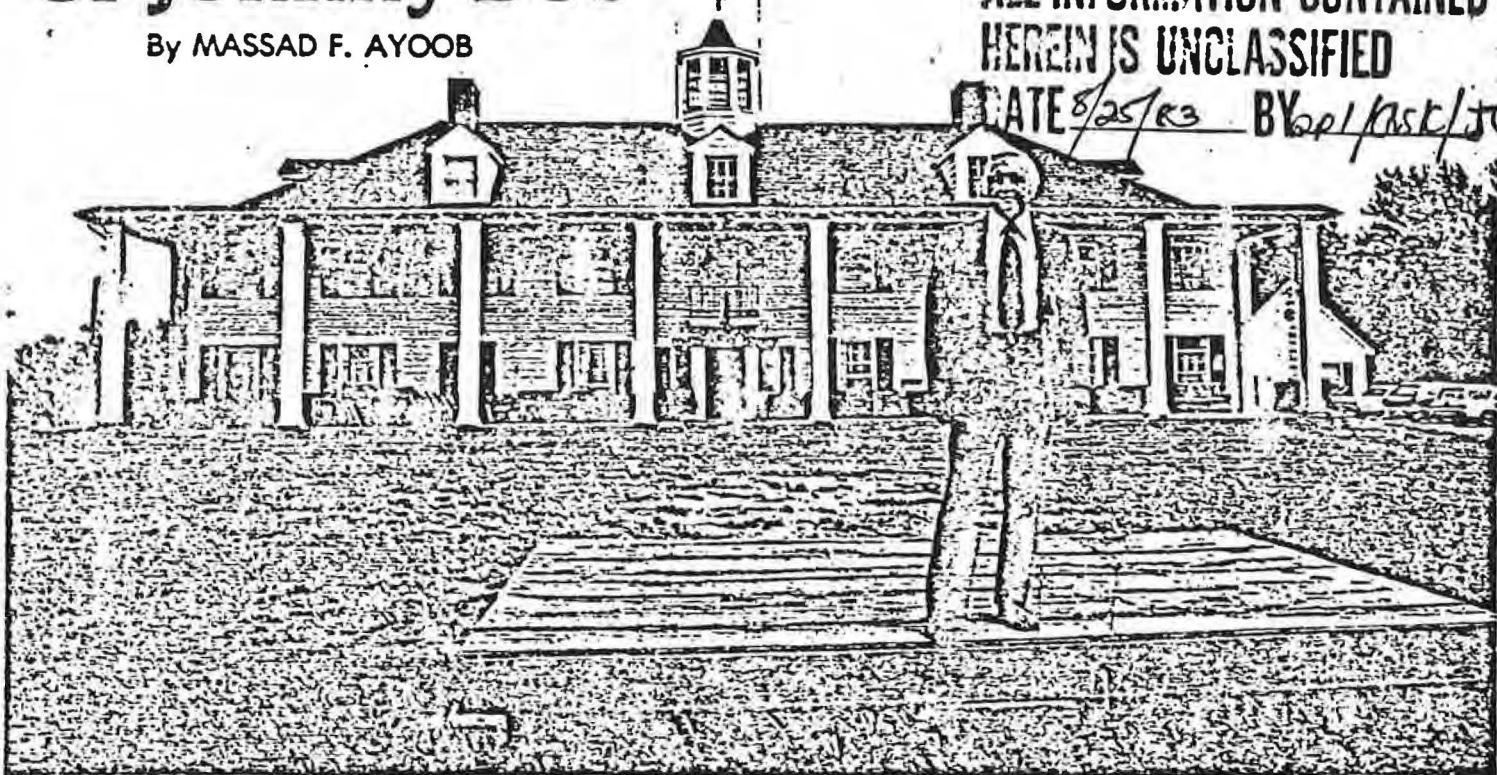
All offices are being furnished with the above information since the Springfield Division occasionally receives communications from other offices indicating that the CPDL and its associates are active in other divisions.

SI 100-11623

Springfield Division is carrying this case in a closed status since this matter does not meet the Attorney General's Guidelines for investigation in domestic security cases.

The Return of Johnny Bob

By MASSAD F. AYOOB



FEB. 1981 ISSUE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/25/03 BY bpl/ASL/JC

Elsewhere in this issue we have an article on the state of nuclear disaster preparedness in Illinois. Attention is focused primarily around areas like the Zion facility outside Chicago. Downstate, another organization is planning for a different type of nuclear disaster.

The Christian Patriots Defense League doesn't worry about domestic nuclear disasters of the Three Mile Island or China Syndrome genre. They're considering World War III, which they feel will probably occur in the next two or three years. They contend that America has gone soft and rotten, and that a giant, iron-muscled Communist monolith is ready to move forward and step on this nation. They figure when that happens, weak-willed and Fifth Column-inclined liberals, Easterners, Blacks and Jews will become a sort of a new Vichy government that will help turn all God-fearing, right-thinking Americans over to the enemy.

This is the vision of Johnny Bob Harrel, founder and guru of the Defense League. It has been estimated that 25,000 American citizens have bought that scenario and, to a greater or lesser extent, become part of his organization. "We are patriots," says Harrel, "and we are hard-core survivalists."

What he neglects to say, in so many words, is that individuals who do not happen to be both Caucasian and right wing need not apply.

He makes it clear that his gatherings, which include annual Freedom Festivals here at the League's headquarters in Louisville, Illinois, and which draw as many as 2,000 people, are open to whites only. Blacks, Hispanics, and others are turned away at the gate. Though non-WASP Caucasians are accepted, Harrel makes it clear that in his view, and that of his organization, an American of French descent who marries one of Italian descent is committing something close to miscegenation.

"We welcome patriotic Blacks and Americans of Arab descent," says Harrel, "but they will work within their own groups. We believe that 40% of the world's problems are caused by mixing of the races."

Feature Editor Massad Ayoob is a former police officer and a nationally published author.

JOHNNY BOB Harrel poses outside the Christian Patriots Defense League headquarters, which is also his home, patterned after Mount Vernon, "only 20% larger." (MFA photo)

"Why should we not have organizations which are Caucasians only?" Harrel asks almost plaintively. "Blacks have Black-only meetings, Hispanics have Hispanic-only meetings, American Indians have Indian-only meetings. Should we not be able to have gatherings that promote the white culture, which our forefathers created this country to perpetuate?"

Asked if he is a white racist, Harrell will steadfastly deny it, though admitting that he will occasionally work with some organizations that profess those beliefs, if those organizations hold common philosophical grounds with his. He states that the Christian Patriots Defense League has no formal alliance with the Posse Commitatus, an avowedly white racist group headquartered in the northern Midwest, though it is significant that a Posse Commitatus bumper sticker is prominently displayed on one column of Harrel's home/headquarters, which is patterned after Mount Vernon. Local journalists covering the Freedom Festivals have noted that Ku Klux Klan T-shirts abound.

ENCLOSURE 100-487109-15

upon the racist demagoguery, much as Harrel's philosophy would make a disturbing amount of sense. His group warns of a collapsing economy and of an American military defense machine which would probably crumble, if faced with a serious armed challenge. He and his people have been saying these things for years, but it is only in the past few months that major newspapers and columnists like Jack Anderson have echoed these exact predictions.

"When the virtually inevitable invasion comes," Harrel predicts, "the outer perimeters of our nation will be indefensible. The plastic liberal culture of California will crumble. The Northwest is too sparsely populated to be effectively defended by patriots. The Northeast, will capitulate readily, and the Blacks will take over. Of all of the country, we have found that the fewest patriots exist in the Northeast. The Southeast? The Cubans have already practically established a beachhead. Americans will have to withdraw to the true mid-America. By that I mean the Midwest. This is the most agriculturally fruitful land on earth, and it is one of the things our enemies want. It can sustain the American Patriots while they fight for freedom. I am talking about an inexact rectangle whose

Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, Lubbock, Texas; and Scottsbluff, Nebraska."

This begins to sound logical, because Harrel's inspiration, he says, is a dream experienced by George Washington at Valley Forge, in which Washington dreamed that an angel took him on a guided tour of the newborn nation's future. This supposedly went in three stages: the victory in the Revolution, the Civil War, and a time when America would be beset by invaders from all continents. This last disaster would claim a vast toll in human life and would drive the patriots to the center of the country, but through a series of divine miracles, the USA would ultimately prevail and presumably not only take back the American continent, but rule the world. In Harrel's vision, they will do it right this time, since he and his followers believe that American government has long since been in violation of the true principles of the Constitution.

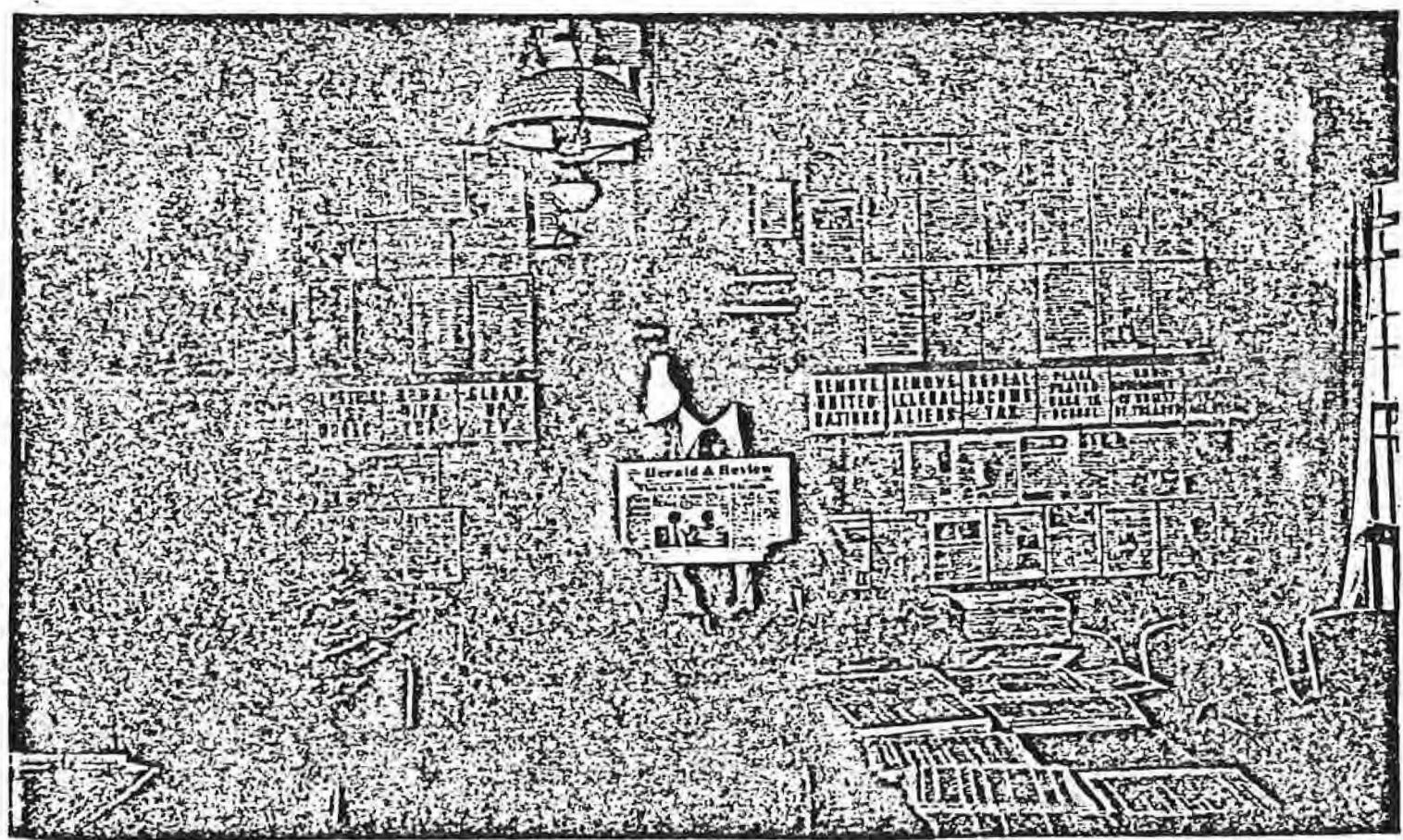
There is no question that there is a prevailing sense of unease and of weakness in America today. Harrel and his people play on that. Gas shortages, blackouts, brownouts, the Miami riots, Afghanistan; it could begin to add up.

When Harrel starts talking about

ent of a .22 rifle and a 12 gauge gun, and at least a month's supply of food for every family member, it can start to look as if his newsletter is meshing a little bit with today's *New York Times* editorial. It is not for nothing that the Mormon Church is increasing its membership at a more rapid rate than any other religion in America. The Mormons emphasize family solidarity, and a generally healthful and pragmatic lifestyle, which includes a year's supply of food kept in storage in the home. The whole nation is swinging a bit to the right, and the traditional values of decades past are again coming to the fore.

The Christian Patriots Defense League is not exactly in the same class as the *New York Times* or the Mormon Church, in terms of being a respectable institution. This is particularly well-known to the Illinois State Troopers of District 12, Effingham, who know a side of Johnny Bob Harrel that few of his nationwide followers do. They remember when, in August of 1962, massed more than a hundred strong, they stormed his estate to capture a

JOHNNY BOB, below, poses with some of the publicity material that is mailed out in information packets, by the thousands, every week. (MFA photo)





IN THE BACKGROUND, Harrel watches as some of his volunteers, of whom he has upwards of 100 in the area, pack envelopes with a combination of survivalist and white supremacy leaflets. (MFA photo)

fugitive, against what they had every reason to expect would be violent, armed resistance.

Harrel, at that time an extremely successful construction entrepreneur, had established something of an isolationist community around his Mount Vernon replica and had given sanctuary to an AWOL Marine. Police intelligence had indicated that the guards in the elevated sentry posts around the barbed wire-enclosed estate were armed with high powered rifles and would have no qualms about using them against authorities who "invaded" the enclave that Harrel today calls "the headquarters of mid-America survival area."

Harrel says mournfully, "They came in with their planes, soldiers, state troopers, and FBI men a couple of hundred strong. They even had an armored vehicle. Naturally, we gave them no resistance. However, I wound up spending 10 years in a federal prison."

Corporal Rinehart of District 12 remembers that day well. He was the

trooper who drove the borrowed half-track. "We used the half-track for a very good reason. We had been told that their guards were armed with high-powered rifles and would fire, if we attempted to move in. Harrel had refused to surrender the suspect previously. We moved in at dawn and found that a line of cars was blocking the gate. I drove the half-track through the gate, rammed one of the cars out of the way, and we proceeded in. Because we had entered before they were ready to intercept us with force, we met no armed resistance. There were, however, a number of arrests made for resisting arrest. We took our prisoner out of there, and we also took Mr. Harrel."

Harrel says that there was no reason for the authorities to come in in force, but police photographs taken at the scene show the arsenal of military-style rifles that was found at Harrel's home. With that in mind, we asked Johnny Bob just how his patriots organization of 25,000, which he has designed to function as a shadow army, would cope with the fact that they were in violation of the lawful authority of the government at a time of national emergency. If Illinois State Troopers

were assigned to disband them, would these people lay down their arms?

Harrel got very nervous about this question. After some hemming and hawing, he allowed that the majority of his members would not be disposed to giving up either their assault rifles or their ideals to duly constituted officers, under such circumstances.

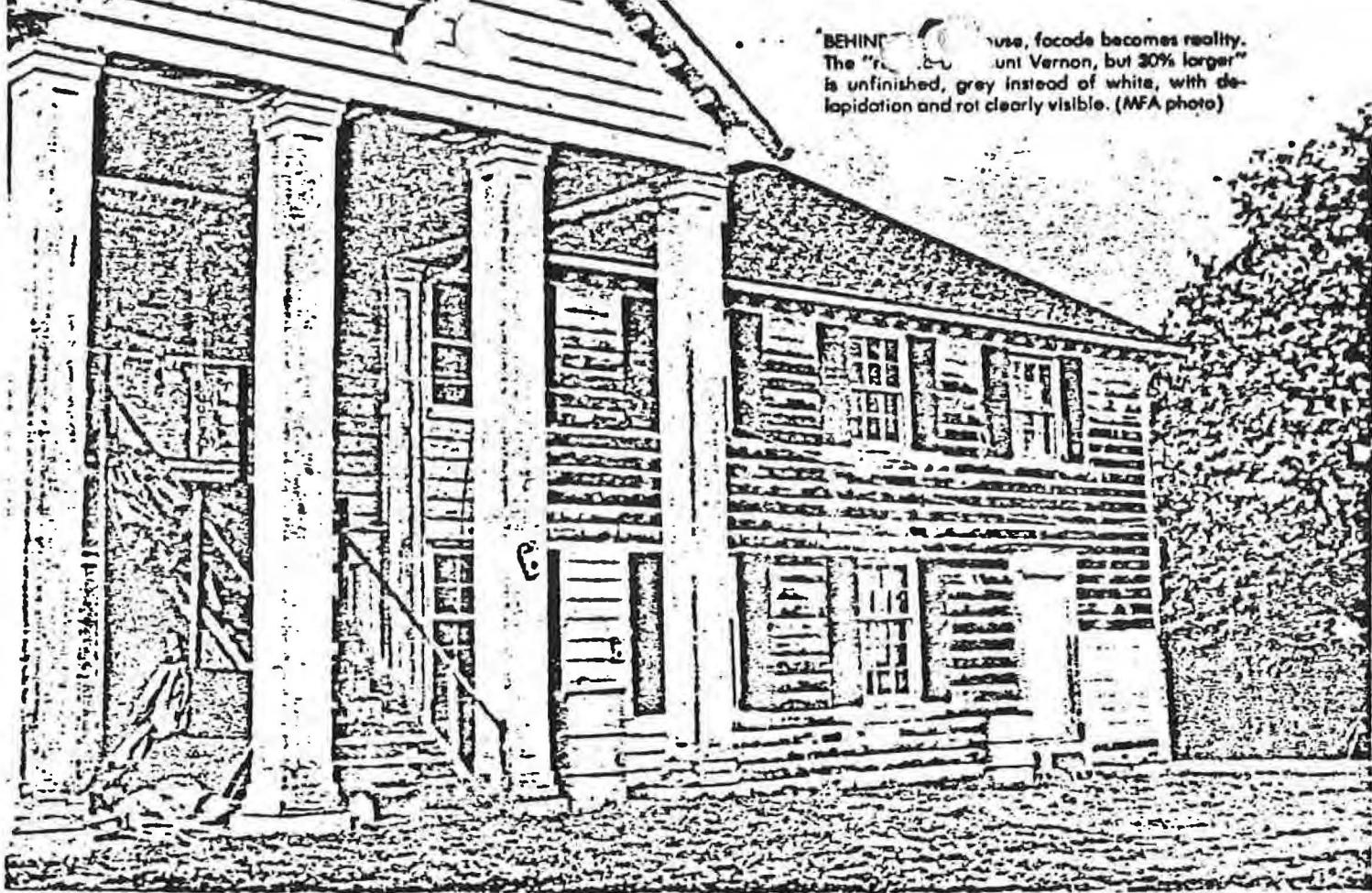
To digress briefly, here we have what could be a very real dilemma under the circumstances described. Constitutional scholars continue to argue whether the phrase "A well-regulated militia being necessary to a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," in the Second Amendment, refers to armed citizens or the National Guard. Historical precedents and studies of state constitutions indicate that the founding fathers had more of an unorganized militia in mind, than they did an army reserve. This seems to lend credence to what Johnny Bob is saying.

But it is something else again to picture "hard-core survivalists", as Johnny Bob describes his followers, shooting it out with cops, if the scenario that Johnny Bob describes as the second most likely to happen does happen. He envisions America facing a major economic collapse from within resulting in widespread civil disorder. At that time, his purported 25,000 members would converge on his "mid-America survival area" headquartered in Flora/Louisville, Illinois.

Harrel is a wordsmith, a man accustomed to talking in public, and has said, "We take the position that anything the news media says or writes about us helps, as such reports are not so much to convince, but to challenge the public thinking and forewarn them of coming events," whether the articles are favorable or not. Less mellow about all this are some of Harrel's followers.

By all accounts his Freedom Festivals draw people who are as much into the concept of shooting looters as of storing a year's supply of wheat. While Harrel apparently didn't try to hurt anyone during his 1963 arrest, a trooper who was there recalls, "One of the people there got extremely violent and lashed out at the troopers. That person struck a trooper in the face. It took the trooper a moment to realize that this long-haired person was not one of the females who were milling around, and he flattened the guy."

Yet, by all accounts, the Christian Patriots Defense League has been well-behaved to date. Troopers haven't



BEHIND THE FRONT FA^{CE} of the "Capitol of America" in Louisville, Kentucky, the house, facade becomes reality. The "Capitol of America" is a replica of Mount Vernon, but 20% larger" is unfinished, grey instead of white, with delapidation and rot clearly visible. (MFA photo)

bothered to infiltrate the Freedom Festivals, so they don't challenge the reporter's statements about the KKK T-shirts all over the place. Corporal Rinehart notes, "We never have any trouble with them down here. None of the people who come for Johnny Bob's gatherings cause any difficulties in the area at all." Like most District 12 troopers, Rinehart chuckles when you ask him about Johnny Bob. He is known in the area as a nice, quiet, soft-spoken sort of a guy who is just a little, well, eccentric.

Harrel's estate in Louisville, which he has prepared as the Capitol of America after the Apocalypse, is centered around the Harrel home. It is "a replica of Mount Vernon but 20% larger", a reference that appears in any story on Johnny Bob and his group. But Johnny Bob's house was never finished, and if you walk around the back, you'll see that it is gray instead of white, the windows are broken, and the casements and flatboards are gray and sagging. It looks great from the front, but it is only a front. All the acres that supposedly will hold the Capitol of the new America are untilled

and fallow and are not prepared to produce the food needed to feed all the "Christian Patriots" who seem to believe that they can flock there for salvation when The Great Invasion comes.

Johnny Bob has upwards of 100 people, in the area, who he uses as volunteer labor in order to send out the thousands of information packets that are mailed from the Defense League headquarters every week. He is deeply resentful that the government no longer recognizes his Christian Conservative Church as a non-profit organization, but he doesn't really worry about where the money is coming from.

A private citizen, a Christian Patriots Defense League member who lives in District 7, said, "We're going to be ready when all those niggers come streamin' out of Chicago." Courtney Smith, who speaks for both the conservative Liberty Lobby and the Defense League, has publicly said, "Have not the Russians said they will bury us? Yet our Congressmen and Senators vote to aid and abet them; that's treason. They should be hanged—slowly."

"A little eccentric"? Harrel is most definitely that. "Nice, quiet"? That remains to be seen. After all, Jim Jones of Jonestown could have been described in exactly that way.



Double up, America.

Two can ride cheaper
than one.



Memorandum

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



To : DIRECTOR, FBI

Date 4/29/82

From : ~~SD INDIANAPOLIS (100-28310) (RUC)~~

Subject : ~~CHRISTIAN PATRIOTS
DEFENSE LEAGUE,
CITIZENS EMERGENCY
DEFENSE SYSTEM
DOMESTIC SECURITY~~

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF *Declassified*
DATE *8/25/83 OP*~~

OO: SI

~~DECLASSIFIED BY RPL-PSL/JSC
ON.....8/25/83
23/43~~

2

LWT

All paragraphs herein including the caption are classified "confidential" unless otherwise noted.

ReIPairtel to Bureau dated 10/8/81, and Springfield airtel to Bureau, 10/5/81.

(b)(7)(c), (d)

[REDACTED]

According to the literature, the Citizens Emergency Defense System is located at P.O. Box 565, Flora, Illinois, 62839, Telephone #618/665-3937, and its National Defense Coordinator is listed as retired USAF Brigadier General Jack Mohr, 113 Ballentine Street, Bay-St. Louis, Mississippi, 39520, Telephone #601/467-8036.

100-481809-6 1982

②- Bureau

- 1 - Jackson (Info)
- 1 - Springfield (100-11623) (Info)
- 2 - Washington Field Office (1 - 100-59886) (1 - 100-59886)
- 1 - Indianapolis

OMA

1/2/1982

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 2979
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 (2&3)
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 4/29/2000

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IP 100-28310

(b)(7)(c), (D) [REDACTED] wanted this brought to the
attention of the FBI due to the contents of the literature.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT

Christian Patriots Defense League

FILE NUMBER

References 7-18700-47

174-8319-3

62-0-89427

100-0-46518

100-0-46519

100-0-46598

100-0-46610

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
2322 300Z

PP HQ SI SL AT

DE MP 00001

P 202000Z AUG 82

U AUG 82 20 18z

FM MINNEAPOLIS (7A-984) (RUC) BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

SPRINGFIELD (7A-1110) PRIORITY

ST. LOUIS (7A-1642) PRIORITY

ATLANTA (7A-1915) (SQUAD 7) PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

UNSUBS.,

Exec. AU-Adm. _____
Exec. AD-Inv. _____
Exec. AD-LES _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Adm. Servs. _____
Crim. Inv. *re 2/28/82*
Ident. _____
Inspection _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun. _____
Off. of Cong. _____
& Public Affs. _____
Rec. Maint. _____
Tech Servs. _____
Training _____
Telephone, Inv. _____
Director's Office _____

DET (b) (7) (c), (d)
KIDNAPPING (A).

OO: SPRINGFIELD.

RE SPRINGFIELD TELETYPE TO MINNEAPOLIS DATED AUGUST 19, 1982,
ATLANTA TELETYPE TO MINNEAPOLIS DATED AUGUST 19, 1982, MINNEAPOLIS
TELCALL TO SPRINGFIELD ON AUGUST 19, 1982.

DET 17-18703-47
AUG 25 1982

5C
53 SEP 24 1982

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.



Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C), (D) with no segregable material available for release to you.



Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.



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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):



For your information: _____



The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

7-18700-47 pages 243

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

(b) (c), (d).

REDACTED WHICH CENTERED UPON EXTREMIST
RELIGIOUS GROUPS. HE ADVISED THAT HE RECALLED ONE GROUP BEING
FROM FLORA, ILLINOIS WHICH CALLED ITSELF "THE CHRISTIAN
PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE"; HE SAID THIS GROUP IS HEADED BY
JOHN WARELL, IT IS A VERY RIGHT-WING TYPE CHRISTIAN GROUP.

PAGE FIVE

MP 7A-984

UNCLAS

(b)(7)(c)(D)

[REDACTED]

INASMUCH AS MINNEAPOLIS IS UNAWARE IF OFFICE OF ORIGIN
IS ALREADY IN RECEIPT OF AFOREMENTIONED INFORMATION [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] LEADS ARE BEING LEFT TO THE DISCRETION
OF SPRINGFIELD AND MINNEAPOLIS CONSIDERS THIS MATTER RUC'D.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

ET

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion. Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C), (D) with no segregable material available for release to you.

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_____ For your information: _____
_____ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
174-8319-3 page 1+2XXXXXX
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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

PAGE THREE MO 174-NEW UNCLAS E F T O

(b)(7)(c)(B)

[REDACTED]

REQUEST OF FBIHQ: FBIHQ IS REQUESTED TO ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY
[REDACTED] CHRISTIAN - PATRIOTS DEFENSE LEAGUE BASED ON
THE ABOVE AND FURNISH SPRINGFIELD ANY INFORMATION NOT ALREADY IN
THEIR POSSESSION.

BT

CC-IDENT

174-8319-3

nao 3



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Post Office Box 2118
Detroit, Michigan 48231
August 29, 1980

LOCAL & STATE

Mayor's Office
Room 1126
City-County Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the telephone call of Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) Terence D. Dinan of this office on August 22, 1980.

During this conversation you requested a name
check.

This information was provided to the FBI telephonically by an individual identifying himself and related that [redacted] answers the telephone for an organization in Flora, Illinois known as the Christian Patriotic Defense League, telephone number 618-665-3937. DE-9: 167-6-1716

Very truly yours,

NOT RECORDED

3 SEP 5 1930

O. Franklin Lowie
Special Agent in Charge

By:

Special Agent

SIX

NOV 2 1981

1 - Bureau (ATTN: [REDACTED] Terrorism Section)

EVOLVING

1981

1 - Bureau
(ATTN:
Terrorism Se
3 1981
EB 17 1986 *AL*

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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62

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

Documents are duplicates of 100-487109 series 1X and 2X which have been processed in that file.

For your information: _____



The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

*100-0-46518, 46519*XXXXXX
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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

Teletype
 Facsimile
 Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

Immediate
 Priority
 Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

TOP SECRET
 SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 UNCLAS E F T O
 UNCLAS

Date 9/8/81

(b)(7)(c)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: SAC, DETROIT (100-) (CI-2) (RUC)
CHRISTIAN PATRIOT DEFENSE
LEAGUE/SCEPTRE, INC.
BENTON, TENNESSEE
DOMESTIC SECURITY INVESTIGATION

Knoxville
 Detroit
 Atlanta
 ADVISED 6/7/81
 TO DECLASSIFY LHM
 All advised copy NOT
 OPENED - PLACED IN DEPT
 OR ZERO FILE
 P.P.

Enclosed for the Bureau are six copies of an LHM, captioned and dated as above. Atlanta and Knoxville are receiving two copies each of this LHM. (U)

Detroit indices negative regarding captioned subjects as well as USPERS #1 and #2. (RM)

(b)(7)(D)
 (b)(7)(C), (D)
 (b)(7)(C), (D)

16 SEP 22 1981

2 - Bureau (Enc.-6) (RM)
 2 - Atlanta (Enc.-2) (RM)
 2 - Knoxville (Enc.-2) (RM)
 2 - Detroit

Declassified
 by 8024

1981 19/25/81

Level of Classification

Classified and Declassified by

Reason for Classification

Date of Review for Declassification

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(b)(7)(D)

cc AIRTEL & SUP. SEC. LHM
 destroyed 9/24/81 as
 Doc. class

Approved:

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

(Signature)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DE 100-

Copies of LHM's are being sent to Knoxville and Atlanta in view of their possible interest in captioned matter. (U)

Bureau is asked to appropriately review this matter and advise recipients if and what additional queries are warranted. [REDACTED]

(R) h

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET45

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.



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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____



The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-0-46598-page 3 of airtel + enclosure

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (4 CFR) 101-11.2

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SLIP (S) *Close*

DATE 1-5-84 DJ

DATE: 12/14/81

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : *D. L. K.* SAC, KNOXVILLE [REDACTED]

(S)
(P)

(b)(1)

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN PATRIOT DEFENSE LEAGUE/SCEPTRE, INC.
BENTON, TENNESSEE
DOMESTIC SECURITY INVESTIGATION

Reference Detroit airtel and LHM to the Director
dated 9/8/81.

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(7)(c), (D)
151845Z NOV 81
Classified by [REDACTED]
Declassify 2020 CAD
231,431

Above referenced airtel advised FBIHQ of the
existence of [REDACTED] captioned organization, and
Sceptre, Inc., the manufacturer and distributor of firearms
and other paraphernalia located near Benton, Tennessee.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7E-81

100-0-46610

② - Bureau
2 - Knoxville

(4) 1A107 [REDACTED]
Approved: No justification
Required. No further action
Required. No further action
Required. No further action
Required. No further action

12 DEC 13 1981

xx [redacted] (b)

(b)(i)

X [redacted]

b(7)(D)

In view of the above and prior information furnished FBIHQ by the Detroit Division in above referenced airtel, the Bureau is requested to again review this matter and advise as to whether or not a limited domestic security investigation should be conducted.